

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR
RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

17D
Zeta
923-02

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action (Paper No. 14), dated March 12, 2002, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Specification:

Delete the two (2) paragraphs which appear at page 22, lines 10-24, and replace them with the following:

Figure 3 - shows a schematic view of the *R. corallina* *ohp* operon obtained by functional screening in *E. coli*, as described in Example 7. The schematic shows location of predicted genes: Regulator (SEQ ID No. 3), Transport (SEQ ID No. 4), Monooxygenase (SEQ ID No. 5), Hydroxymuconic semialdehyde hydrolase (SEQ ID No. 6), Catechol-2,3-dioxygenase (SEQ ID NO. 7), Alcohol dehydrogenase (SEQ ID No. 8). Initiator and terminator codons are shown as half height and full height lines respectively. Base coordinates refer to the Figure 4 sequence. The location of predicted promoter regions and direction are indicated by arrows. The molecular weights and coordinates of *ohp* genes are tabulated.